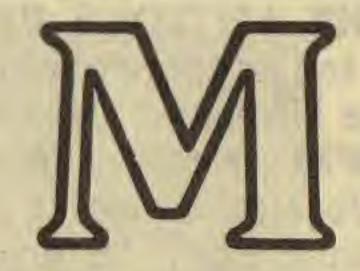


Archives of



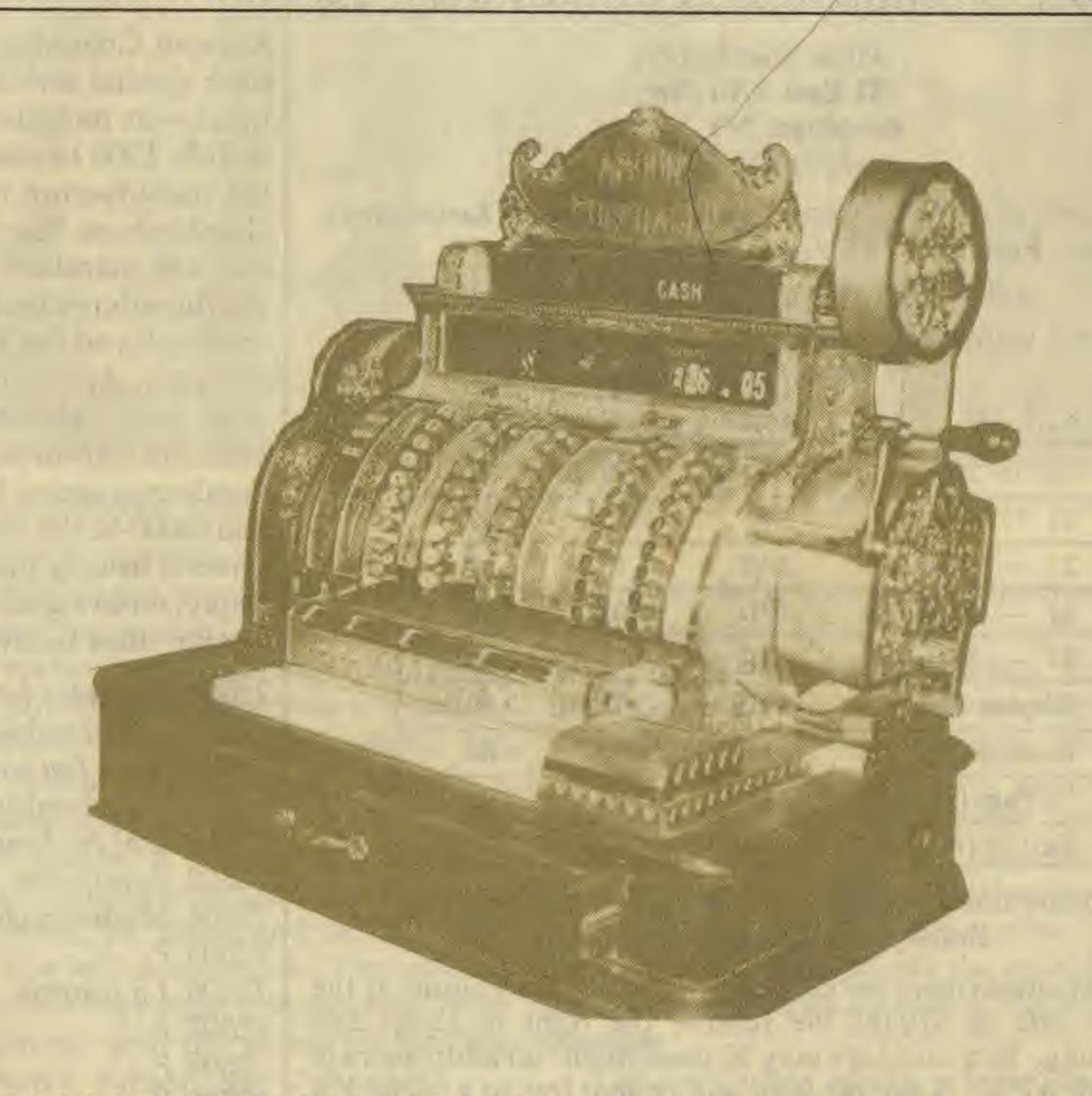
Recorded Sound



Vol VII

THE ANTIQUE PHONOGRAPH MONTHLY®

No 5



# "Fun at the Music Counter"

\$ A Phonographic Cash Register \$

When I was researching U.S. patent files in Crystal City, Virginia in 1975, I came across a number of unusual designs incorporating the mechanical marvels of the cash register with those of the phonograph. As early as Aug. 20, 1890, Austin B. Hayden of Kansas City, Missouri, had filed for a combination cylinder device which announced transactions via a horn at the top of the register. The goal of this hybrid was to keep the clerks honest as the voice within was meant to notify the customer of the actual transaction. By 1905, another inventor named Cornelius S. Clark, of Norfolk, Va., had patented an improved model which not only announced 'dollars and cents' but recorded the voice of the clerk as well. Naturally I despaired of ever finding anything remotely like these contraptions, even though Hayden had actually formed the Articulating Cash Register Co. So when APM had the chance to obtain a phonographic cash register seven years later, those early days at the U.S. Patent Office flashed back. (continued on page 3)

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### DEAR APM:

Question: How many 20th Century Cylinder titles did Columbia issue?

E.E., Bridgeport, CT

Answer: Columbia introduced their special series of 6"-long black wax moulded cylinders in July 1905 to coincide with the manufacture of their BC Graphophone. Since the records had the standard groove of 100 threads per inch, they generally played for 3 minutes at 160 rpm. Approximately 200 titles were released between 1905 and 1909 in two different numbering series: 72500-72510 and 85000-85189. Since the first series is usually unrecognized today, we are glad to print the known titles below:

Brunette polka Columbia Orche	estra	
Tout feu tout flamme		
Columbia Orche	estra	
Oh! les femmes	CO	
Sympathie	CO	
Modern style schot.	CO	
2		
La czarine	CO	
P		
P	* 9	
P		
Curassier attaque	CO	
	Columbia Orche Tout feu tout flam Columbia Orche Oh! les femmes Sympathie Modern style schot. P La czarine P P P	

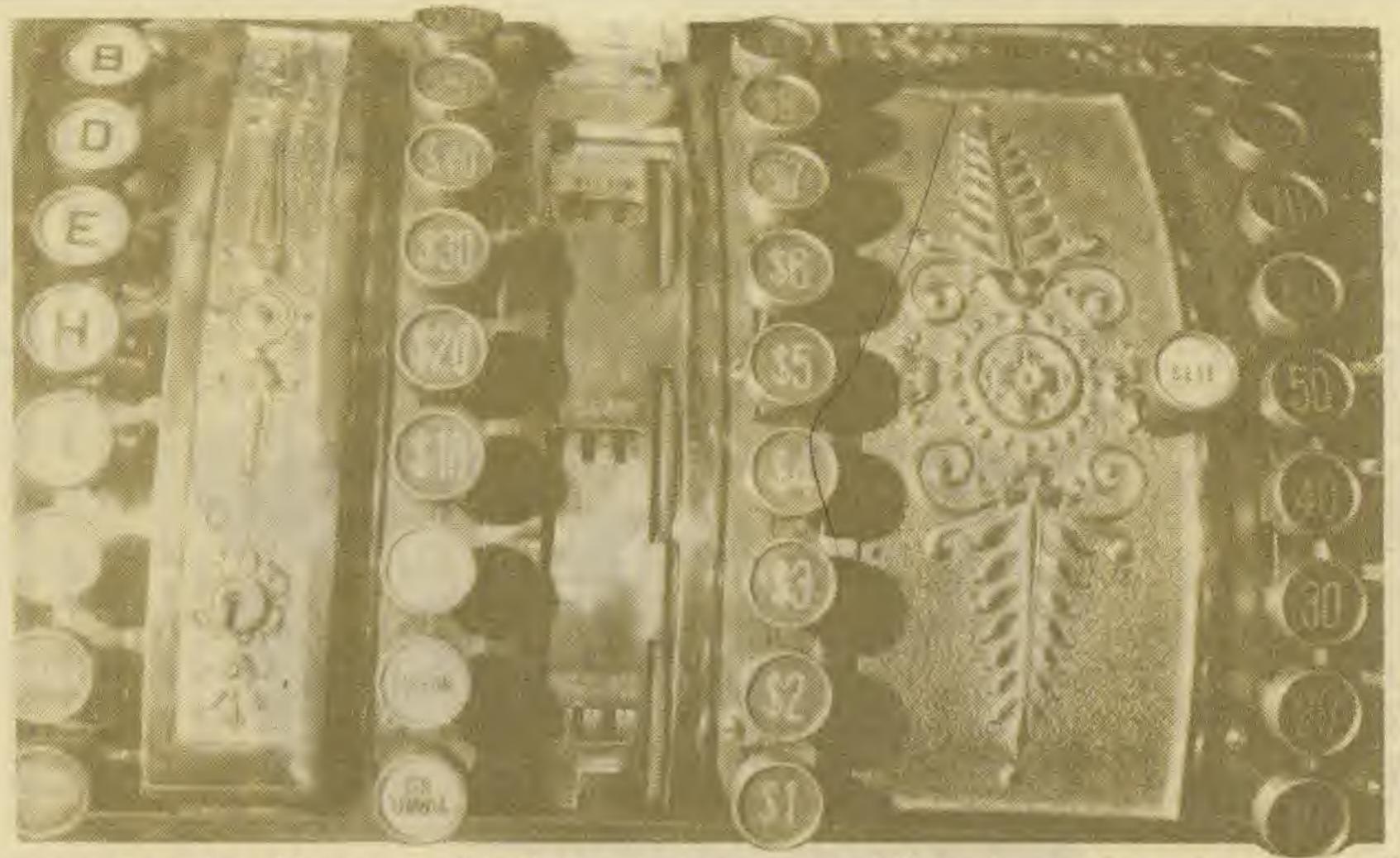
SGB Ed7.75

SGB Ed7.75

SMB CL 4.65

RdE Ed7.40
RdH Ed6 85
RdE Ed3 45

The tapes tell the story to those who know the code (see article).



Three customized keys and tally counters reveal the phonograph connection!

(Cont'd from front page)

No, it didn't have any concealed records inside, but it was instead a cash register specifically made for a phonograph record shop. As Model No. 532, it was a regularly manufactured National cash register, but had been customized by the company for a Chicago-area music store.

At first glance, it was simply a lovely example of American industrial skill, measuring 30" wide, 18" deep, and 28" high. But there, on the left side, was the first clue—three separate keys clearly imprinted, from top to bottom, with the names of the 'Big Three' (Victor, Edison, and Columbia).

Had this been the only variation, it would hardly have been remarkable. But when any of these three buttons was pressed, along with the appropriate prices and other information, the correct "flag" also appeared adjacent to the price in the window above -Vr for Victor, Ed for Edison, and Cl for Columbia. In addition, when one of the curved vertical face plates between the keys was raised, additional wheel counters were revealed, one above the other. You guessed it! Each name was clearly engraved there (VICTOR, EDISON, COLUMBIA) by the factory in the metal so that the number of sales for each company would be tallied at the end of the day. And finally, to top it off, the register tape was also imprinted with the name of the phonograph or record company (see illustration).

The bronze register had other features, some standard, others unusual, for a machine of this type. The large lettered keys on the upper left (A, B, D, E, H, K) are codes for

any of six clerks who were authorized to use it. The register will not operate unless one of these is depressed. In addition, there is a pinch lever indicator for four categories — no sale, sheet music, records, and small goods. Codes for these also appear, in a separate window at the top left, as follows: NS, SM, RD, and SG, and likewise appear on the tape. At the end of the day, dollar tallies for these categories appear in counters at the bottom (above the marble shelf) and in a concealed section at the left of the register.

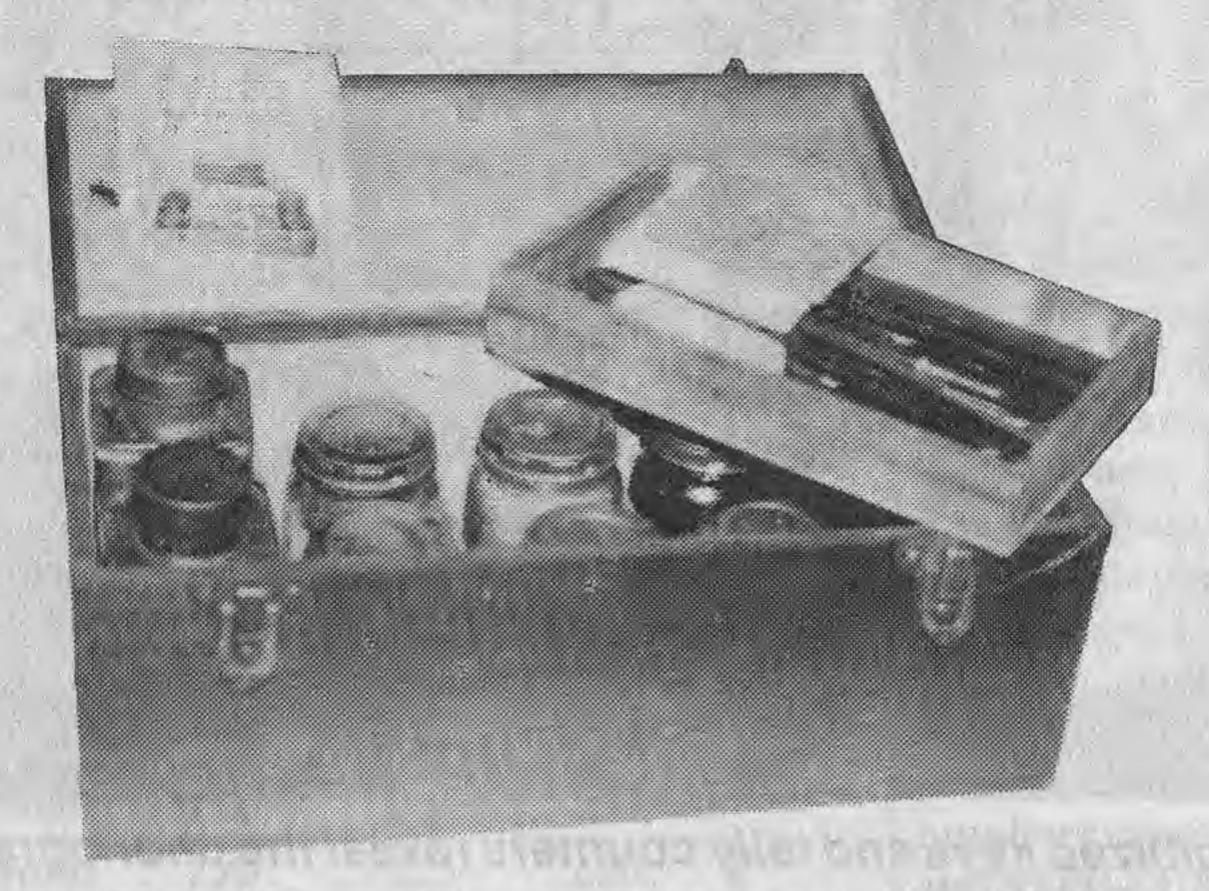
The logo plate which printed the store's name on each register receipt was long ago removed, so it is still a mystery exactly which shop possessed this marvelous instrument. It was a triumph of mechanical engineering, from the complex counters arranged throughout the machine to the simple marble shelf which was designed to test the ring of gold and silver coins when dropped there. It harks back to another day when even a single cash purchase was designed to be an event - how else to explain the large ornate "Amount Purchased" sign on top?

When Uncle Josh shopped at a department store a few years before, he was clearly upset when his money was taken from him in a wire basket. I think he would have been much happier buying something directly from this stately marvel - he could certainly see where his money was going!

At any rate, visitors to the APM Archives can turn back the clock themselves and press the keys and give the crank two turns. After all, it still issues a receipt!

# The Last Word on Finishes

The Edison Cabinet Retouching Outfit



The original hinged box measures 13½" long, 6" deep, and 5½" high.

# E d i s o n C a b i n e t Retouching O u t f i t



Issued for Edison Jobbers and Dealers

Thomas A. Edison, Inc.

Orange, N. J., U. S. A.

2876

### I. The Outfit

This outfit is designed to be a sort of "first aid" to injured Edison Phonograph Cabinets, in order that a jobber or dealer may readily repair any slight damage caused by accident or careless handling of a cabinet, without the necessity of calling upon a cabinet finisher to do the job.

With attention to the directions here given any intelligent person may soon learn how to properly treat a finished surface so that blemishes caused by scratches or dents or by the effects of heat or moisture may be removed and the surface present as fine a finish as originally.

This outfit is purposely very simple. There is not an article in the whole make-up that could well be spared. The quantity of material given in the bottles is sufficient to cover many repairs, if carefully used and tightly corked when any one job is finished.

A word of timely advice may not be out of place here. Handle the tools, and particularly the liquids, with neatness and care. See that all tools are wiped dry before being laid aside, and that all liquids are recorked and replaced in proper order in the box. If this is done the outfit will always be ready for use and will be as serviceable as when new.

### CONTENTS OF THIS KIT

- 1. Tools: 1. Spatula, or Burning-in Knife. 2. Camel's Hair Brush (round). 3. Camel's Hair Brush (flat).
- Abrasive Materials: 1. Powdered Pumice Stone.
   Powdered Rotten Stone. 3. No. 000 Sand Paper.
- 3. Cements: 1. Transparent. 2. Dark Mahogany.
  3. Golden Oak. 4. Fumed Oak. 5. Weathered Oak.
- 4. Shellac Stains: I. Mahogany. 2. Golden Oak.
  3. Fumed Oak. 4. Weathered Oak.
- Surface Restorers: 1. Crude Oil. 2. White Shellac.
   Orange Shellac. 4. Wood Alcohol. 5. Felt, two pieces. 6. Cheese Cloth.

### TOOLS AND MATERIALS

1. TOOLS—The tools needed, as will be seen above, are very few and very simple. The most important is the Spatula or Burning-in Knife. We advise those who are

scratched or dented. The beginner should not be dis-couraged if at first the result desired is not attained. not skilled in its manipulation to practice with it on a sample board, or a piece of polished wood that has been A little practice will make all clear and easy.

etc. It is to be heated—not over-heated—on a gas or alcohol flame. The proper temperature will be secured if a little piece of cement is laid on the blade while it is heating. When the cement begins to melt, remove the blade from the flame, otherwise you will destroy the temper of the blade. The time needed The Spatula or Burning-in Knife. This as will be observed is a special knife with thin blade used for handling the various cements for filling in dents, While so heated apply the cement quickly to the dent in the cabinet. (Further instructions are given under "To Repair Cabinet Which Has Been Dented.") the cement stick (color to be selected according to cabinet finish) and press the tip of the blade, bottom side up, against the cement. The heated blade will When the top of the blade is so heated, apply it to

2. ABRASIVE MATERIALS-These are supplied for They are:reducing the polished surface to receive a new finish.

2. -Powdered Purnice Stone. We supply a bottle of this to be used as instructed under "Directions."

Powdered Rotten Stone. We also supply a bottle of this and the way it is to be used is indicated

w Sand Paper. A very fine grade, known commercially as "000" is supplied.

powdered pumice and powdered rotten-stone. With the above we supply two thick pieces of felt (1/4 inch thick) to be used respectively with the

specified under each :-CEMENTS-These are filling-in material made of beeswax and other ingredients and either transparent or colored. We furnish the following for the purpose

> Transparent Cement. Transparent Cement. This is to be used on mahogany and golden oak cabinets IF THE DENTS RETAIN THEIR NATURAL COLOR. (See RETAIN THEIR NATURAL COLOR. (See Should the surface be oily overcome this by touching the places to be filled in, with alcohol, or thin shellac, allowing it to dry before filling in. the natural color of the cabinets. It is of such a nature that it will not adhere to any oily surface. cement can be used on the various shades of gorden or on mahogany cabinets. This cement relains

Dark Mahogany. Where the dent in the mahog-any case is such as to expose the natural wood under the finished surface, this is the cement to be used to fill in such dents. Dented.") (See instructions under "Cabinet

3 oak where Golden Oak. For use in cabinets finished in golden the dent is such as to expose its natural

wood, under the Under "Cabinet Dented.")
under "Cabinet Dented.")
This is the proper cement to be used the exposes the natural wood under the finish.

(See instructions under "Cabinet Dented.")
Weathered Oak. Similar in use as above on cabinets finished in Weathered Oak. (See instructions under "Cabinet Dented.")

bottle is thoroughly shaken:each one properly mixed and ready for use, when the SHELLAC STAINS-We supply four different colors,

Mahogany Golden Oak Weathered Oak Shellac Stain Shellac Shellac Stain 82 8.8.8. E.E.E. bottle bottle) bottle bottle).

applied and SURFACE RESTORERS-These consist of:are the last

ing to directions. Crude Oil-1/2 pint is furnished to be used accord-

White Shellac—1/2 pint of this also is furnished and its uses fully specified.

Orange Shellac—1/2 pint of this is also supplied and how it is to be used will be clear when the directions are followed.

Wood Alcohol--1/2 pint is supplied.

# Directions

Methods to be Pursued to Repair Certain Definite Defects

method here outlined:ing case. The surface can easily be restored. Follow the material will slightly rub the surface of the cabinet, caused by the cabinet working loose in its fastenings in the pack-BY PACKING MATERIAL.—Sometimes the packing REPAIR CABINET SLIGHTLY MARRED

nate all blemishes. It is very important that the sand-ing is done thoroughly. To determine this, place your work toward the light, then with the palm of your hand, brush off the surface. Examine closely to see Take some No. 000 finishing sandpaper and sand the nate all blemishes. It is very important that the sandwhether the press marks have been sanded out.

ing it wood such as scratches and blemishes. is absolutely smooth and free from creases. This will During the operation, make sure that the part of the pad which comes in contact with the varnished surface and go hand for rubbing. have a Now alcohol and shape into over the marred surface and filling up all tendency to loosen the varnish evenly, spreadover the sanded surface in a rotary motion. make a pad of cloth which is free from lint, a piece of old linen. Dampen the pad with a wad suitable to

of the the wad or pad of cloth in the direction of the grain complete. take on Do not allow your wad to become "tacky," but keep adding alcohol and oil as occasion demands. As the wood for a few minutes and your finish a smooth appearance. As a final touch, rub

TO REPAIR CABINET INJURED BY A pursued:just outlined above. SCRATCH.-A scratch cuts below the surface of the finish and takes more time to remove than the operation The following course should be

5

Slight scratches (or dents for that matter) can be filled in with white shellac, using a small pencil brush. Let the shellac stand after filling in two days so as to become thoroughly hardened. Then rub the surface and knit together the surface finish by using an alcohol pad.

TO REPAIR CABINET WHICH HAS BEEN DENTED.—How to Remove the Dent so surface will be even again. A dent or bang is a serious injury in that it requires some careful handling to restore the surface so it will not show. Follow the method here outlined:—

dent it will be necessary to use the ing to whether the cabinet is mahogany, golden oak, furned oak, weathered oak. Heat the tip end of the blade of the spatula over an alcohol light. The rough appearance, heat the spatula again and try to work the cement more evenly, working the blade back and forth. Care must be taken not to overheat Allow the spatula to cool off proper temperature can be determined by placing a small amount of cement on the blade while it is heaton the tip of the blade enough cement to fill or partly fill the dent. Press the spatula gently against the sur-If the filled in cement has a a foamy appearance. Allow the spatula to cool off before applying the blade. If the spatula is over-heated it will cause the varnish to blister. When the cement melts it is hot enough. Secure the spatula as it will cause the melted cement to have spatula and the proper colored cement face to receive the wax. To repair a

After all blemishes have been attended to, the next step is to take a piece of rubbing felt, dip in crude oil and powdered pumice stone. Apply the felt to the filled in surface. Rub the felt back and forth with the grain of the wood (never against it) until the required results are obtained.

After this operation take a soft cloth and wipe off all traces of the oil and the powdered pumice stone.

The next step is to make a small pad of cotton and place it in the center of a piece of linen, or cheese cloth, free from lint, now draw the ends together and twist so that the pad will be firm.

Next, sprinkle a few drops of alcohol on the pad.

Then pat the pad against the palm of the left hand so that the alcohol will be evenly applied. Now dip the end of the finger in the crude oil, touch the oil to the pad.

Apply the pad, thus prepared, to the surface to be finished. Work it back and forth, or in a circular motion over the filled in parts so as to knead the cement and the varnish together.

Work the pad rapidly. Don't allow it to rest on the surface, as it will show print marks of the pad. If the pad becomes dry, use more alcohol.

Be careful not use too much oil on the pad as the purpose of the oil is only to keep the pad from sticking to the varnish.

fine lustre will appear. This shows that the desired results are being obtained.

If the cabinet to be repaired has a dull finish, allow the varnish to harden. Then take crude oil and powdered pumice stone to dull the lustre rubbing with the grain of the wood (never against the grain) over the entire surface so that it will become uniform. Then wipe dry with a soft cloth.

# Such an injury can arise from a number of causes. If the

cabinet is left too near a steam raditor it will soon blister. If exposed to dampness it will blister, and usually "turn white" in spots. The following is the best way to treat these defects:—

Take a small pad, as described under directions, dampen it with alcohol and rub rapidly one way over surface where the discolored blemishes appear. Lift the pad off the surface, allowing the alcohol to penetrate into the varnish. Repeat this operation until the defective parts have assumed their natural color. In repeating this operation always wait a few minutes so that the varnish will harden again. When the desired results have been obtained then proceed.

# 5. TO REPAIR CABINET SHOWING "WHITE EDGES."—This defect is most noticeable in mahogany and weathered oak cabinets. Certain edges will have a

lighter appearance than the surfaces, as if worn off by handling. This defect is easily remedied:-

Take the flat camel's hair brush, dip lightly in the shinet shellac stain which corresponds with the cabinet finish. Then slightly touch the edge, not covering the surface more than need be. Let this dry.

# 6. TO REPAIR CABINET SLIGHTLY CHIPPED.

A small splinter off a corner can be repaired by cement of the proper color, but a big chip off, unless the piece is saved, cannot be repaired by cement. In such case the cabinet should be treated by a cabinet maker, as it requires a piece of wood set in it, and this outfit does not provide for such an operation. Where the splinter is small, pursue the following course:—

Select the proper cement stick corresponding with the finish of the cabinet. Use the spatula as indicated for "Dents." Fill in the chipped space with the cement and carefully shape to the desired requirements. After that is done finish up according to the process outlined under "Dents."

# INJURIES NEEDING A CABINET

There are several injuries to a cabinet that cannot be properly repaired except in the hands of a cabinet finisher. Where the joints spring apart, for instance, where a leg is broken off, or where a large piece of the wood is chipped off, besides many others. It would be futile to attempt such repair without the necessary tools and the experience, All such injuries should be referred to a regular cabinet maker.

# CARE OF SPATULA AND OTHER TOOLS

Always keep the spatula clean. If it becomes discolored take a piece of fine sand paper and polish it. If not kept clean it will cause the cement to become blackened.

away, especially when used in shellac and varnish stains,

8

### "NOT A COUGH IN A CARLOAD"

Some Advertising Blue Amberols
Ron Dethlefson

While tracking down more material on Blue Amberol recordings at the Edison National Historic Site, I discovered two log books from the 1920's which proved to contain long sought-for information. The Columbia Street Studio Day Book No. 5 is just one of at least six that must still exist somewhere in the Edison vaults, but already it has yielded up some fascinating details on little known Blue Amberol history.

Friday Jan-27-1928

Working on Automatic Mac. Cyl. for Regulation at 40 R.P.M. To make Slogan - Not a Cough in a Carload - Made -2- Masters — A & B - by Ed Meeker.

Sat- Jan-28-1928
Shaving Cyl. Blanks
Made-6- Masters for Automatic Cylinder Mac.
Thank You Good and Mild
" " Mild as May
" " Cork Tips Protect the Lips

As I wrote in APM, VII, 2, the Columbia Street Studio was involved in dubbing Blue Amberol cylinders, but the Day Books show that the Studio was the scene of many other recording activities, such as making educational cylinders, testing recording waxes and recorders, and making Edison's ill-fated series of long-playing Diamond Discs.

Thurs Nov. 15/28
On Long Playing Recording
Made-Masters- A & B.
of 12053. Hayes and Burt Assisting - 4½ hrs.

The Day Books contain countless notations and entries regarding all kinds of recording work, but the details of how the work was done are sadly missing. As in the Columbia Street Dubbing Logs, references to exact recording techniques are scant. It seems to me that Thomas Edison was keeping his recording skills a secret and George Werner, Fred Burt, plus W. A. Hayes put very little in writing that can help us reconstruct Edison's actual recording methods. The entries in the Day Books are maddeningly brief:

Thurs May 31/28

Exp. on Dupl. Elec. Recorded Rec's Made -4- Cyl. Masters.

But how was it done? Turning to the dubbing logs, we find an entry for May 2, 1928 "Spec. 6, #5497 made from Elec. Phono 2½" from cabinet." And that is all. Further checking of the Day Books regarding the Slogan Records yields this citation:

Monday - Feb-27 - 28 in N.Y. to Shermack's office and to United Cigar Store 33 St. trying Slogan Rec's.

Was there an Automatic Cylinder Machine there? What did it look like? How did it operate? Perhaps it worked in conjunction with a cigarette machine. Did the cylinder machine say "Thank You, Mild as May" as you received a pack of your favorite brand? Again, there are no details, but one is reminded of some parallels with advertising Diamond Discs (for popcorn, etc.), and I have been advised by a coin machine collector that there was indeed a cigar dispensing machine which played Blue Amberols and touted the virtues of Alvara Cigars! Were Edison's records made for this machine? Does anyone have a photo of this elusive device?

The Day Books of the Columbia St. Studios leave so much unanswered; but who knows, perhaps yet another set of logs may turn up with more details, and we will be able to share them with you.

# EDISON PROFESSORSHIP ESTABLISHED

On the hundredth anniversary of the date in 1882 when Edison ordered the first switch thrown to light up 400 lamps in downtown New York City, it was announced by Columbia University on September 4th that it had received a \$1-million gift from Consolidated Edison to endow the Thomas Alva Edison Chair of Energy Research. Professors will be selected to serve on a rotational basis and, in addition to research and teaching, will deliver an annual public lecture. Edison would no doubt have been amused by all this scholarly attention since he received little formal schooling himself. APM's Editor is doubly pleased since he recalls his own days at Columbia and never heard Edison's name mentioned once! Now perhaps RCA will take suitable steps to honor Emile Berliner and Eldridge Johnson.

### FROM THE GOLDEN AGE

by Joe H. Klee

he critics called her 'Caruso in petticoats'. The late Francis Robinson wrote of her: "Those of us who came along a little too late for Caruso may console ourselves. We heard Ponselle."

Like most non-New Yorkers, my acquaintance with Rosa Ponselle was recorded. Like Caruso she was, for me, a disembodied voice on a phonograph record. The record was a 1928 Victor of "La Vergine degli angeli" from La Forza Del Destino. The Met Opera Orchestra and Chorus was conducted by Giulio Setti and the introductory lines were sung by basso Ezio Pinza. More about that later.

For the history and total view of the artist and person of Rosa Ponselle I had to wait for the publication by Doubleday & Co. of Ponselle/A Singer's Life by Rosa Ponselle and James A. Drake with a forward by Luciano Pavarotti and a discography by Bill Park and 54 black and white photographs. The book is 360 pages long and crammed with history, anecdotes, reminiscences and opinions about contemporaries and those who came after. The list price is \$22.50 and the book is well worth it.

I'm aware that autobiographies, by nature, are self serving and any account of the difficulties between Ms. Ponselle and Edward Johnson, Maria Jeritza, Libbie Miller or William Thorner are bound to be told from the Ponselle perspective. Yet I am certain that any account by the aforementioned Johnson, Jeritza, Miller or Thorner would also be slanted from their perspective and it is good that we have Rosa Ponselle's view of what happened in her lengthy, wonderful and turbulent (at times) career. In addition to the facts, the stories and the photos, the remembrances and the evaluations, the book touches on the philosophy of singing and opera and how Ponselle did it and what made her unique. The fact that this is an authorized biography of Ponselle and that most of it is in her own words saves us the competing and conflicting versions of the life and times and art of the performer that we have recently seen in the case of Maria Callas and Mario Lanza. For the most part it is easily readable and told in a fascinating manner. A reviewer always is on the lookout for that one erroneous piece of research that will show that he has indeed done his homework. I have found

one minor discrepancy on page 104 in a footnote referring to the presence at a Met performance of La Gioconda of John Hays
Hammond Jr. who is referred to as a relative
of the Vanderbilts and as a record company
executive active in the field of jazz. Actually
John Hays Hammond was an inventor. The
recording executive, who is still active today
in the jazz field and the pop field, is John
Henry Hammond Jr. On checking with John
Henry Hammond, I was able to confirm that
he was, indeed, present at the opening night
performance of La Gioconda in the 1924/25
season which included Ponselle, Gigli and
Ruffo.

The discography is rather strange. Bill Park has opted for the alphabetical approach, such as used by Secrist in his Caruso dicography appended to Francis Robinson's Caruso, His Life in Pictures. I rather prefer the chronological approach best illustrated by John Bolig's work on Caruso. Given the data in Park's discography, it will be possible, although time consuming, for me to compile a chronological Ponselle discography for my own use. There are separate discographies for the Columbia recordings, the Victors (both acoustic and electric), the offthe-air recordings (again probably incomplete) and a brief sampling of rehearsal tapes with other singers and conversations with the likes of Pavarotti, Elisabeth Schwarzkopf and Gloria Swanson. There are separate discographies for her sister (Carmella Ponselle) and brother (Tony Ponselle). There is also a listing of radio broadcasts (partial) and various reissue LPs with cross index numbers to relate them to the discography. There is also an alphabetical listing by title with cross reference numbers to the earlier discographical sections so one can enumerate all the recordings of "Ritorna vincitor" (one acoustic Columbia, an acoustic Victor, an electric Victor and an off-the-air recording).

Rosa Ponselle's recording career lasted 21 years. She did make one final LP in 1954 for Victor but for a number of reasons I feel that this is a different sort of item and ought not to be considered as part of the mainstream of Ponselle's discography. While her recording years outnumbered Caruso's because it began later, it was a career that lasted well into the era of electrical recording. Despite Ponselle's ambivalent feelings about her

recordings as expressed in this book we have a more accurate phonographic likeness of Ponselle than we have of Caruso, Patti, Melba or Tetrazzini.

If there is a real villain as far as Ponselle's recordings are concerned it would have to be her early manager William Thorner who signed her with Columbia rather than Victor. The fact that Ponselle was an exclusive Columbia artist and Caruso was an exclusive Victor artist (and in those days exclusive meant just that) robbed us forever of hearing them together in the tomb scene from Aida or the "Miserere" from Trovatore. Caruso was partnered in his recording of the tomb scene by Johanna Gadski (not an inferior singer - until one compared her with Ponselle) and Ponselle was partnered on Columbia in "O terra addio" only by Charles Hackett (no Caruso he) and later in two recordings by Caruso's successor as Radames, Giovanni Martinelli (recorded acoustically for Victor in 1924 and electrically in 1926). What wouldn't we have given to hear Ponselle and Caruso together in this music, or in any other music for that fact. But why torture ourselves with what could have been had Thorner not opted for the Columbia contract for his client. The fact is that he did and at least there is a duet with the baritone Riccardo Straciari from Trovatore ... small solace but solace none the less.

The discography discloses a fantastic repertoire that went from the bel canto music of Bellini and Spontini to such popular items as "Kiss Me Again" and "Little Alabama Coon". It is a recorded legacy that both excites and frustrates because neither Victor nor Columbia have more than one LP reissue currently available. The RCA (Victrola VIC 1507) does include some unpublished material ... the two Aida arias and a Schubert's Serenade as a duet with Carmela ... never issued before. Otherwise the LP is predictable Norma, Ernani and the Aida tomb scenewith Martinelli plus "Miserere" from Trovatore. The Columbia (Odyssey Y31150), in addition to the expected greatest hits from Trovatore, Ernani, Vesperi Siciliani, Forza, Aida, has an interview with Ponselle about the early recordings and her Met debut. Both reissues include excerpts from Otello, a role Ponselle never sang at the Met, the Columbia has the "Ave Maria" whereas the Victrola includes "Salce salce" as well.

The voice on Columbia is some half a decade younger than the voice on Victor. It was not as sure of itself on Columbia as it

became later but there is, as is the case with so many recordings of singers made early in their career, an extra measure of wonder and excitement that vanishes with experience as the artist becomes more comfortable with recording and more blase about their new-

found fame and notoriety.

I'm just as glad that the 1954 recording "Rosa Ponselle Sings Today" (Victor LM 1899) is no longer available. Make all the apologies and excuses you want, the voice in 1954 was not what it was in 1924. There's no way it could be. When a violin gets old it can be repaired or replaced if need be. There is no way to hide or remedy or replace a voice that has deteriorated with time. If others (such as Callas) deteriorated even more than Ms. Ponselle's did this is still not the way I want to remember Rosa Ponselle.

The magnificent 2 LP Camden set CBL 100 to my mind offers a better choice than any other Ponselle reissue I've heard. While it omits the most familiar recordings from Aida, "Ritorna vincitor," "O patria mia" and the tomb scene, it does include the Act III Nile duet with Martinelli. The Camden reissue also includes the "La vergine degli angeli" with Pinza to which I referred earlier as being my favorite Ponselle recording. In Ponselle/A Singer's Life Rosa Ponselle dismisses most of her recordings with faint praise and refers to this particular recording as one she especially dislikes because instead of permitting her piannissimi to stand, the engineers boosted her voice in order to equalize it with Pinza's. This may be true. It may even have been the wrong thing to do especially if, as Ponselle states, it destroyed the very effect she was trying to create. I wish I could tell Rosa Ponselle that this is still my favorite of all her recordings. It is the first one I fell in love with. It is the recording that I played when news reached me of the fire at Villa Pace and her subsequent seeking of shelter at the local convent, as did Leonara in Forza Del Destino and it is also the one I returned to after reading of Rosa Ponselle's death. I would hope that she might reconsider her opinion of this record knowing how much it means to at least one of her fans and how much pleasure it ... along with all her other recordings ... has given me.

This book should be required reading for anyone with even a passing interest in opera and the golden age of singing just as all available recordings of Ponselle should be required listening for all students of the art of operatic singing. Given all in all, even with the setbacks and the disappointments, Rosa Ponselle led a good life. She spent more years than most of us doing what she wanted to do and she did it better than anyone else.

### NOTICE

Don't forget the next Tri-State Music Collectibles Show on April 17, 1983, at the Meadowlands Hilton, Secaucus, NJ, Sun. from 11 am to 5 pm. This is the show to buy & sell, and meet other collectors! For more details, call Bob Barlowat (201) 994-0294.

### PHONOGRAPHS FOR SALE

Edison Windsorfloor-model coin-operated cylinder phonograph, complete with sign frame. Wonderful original condition. Would consider trade on Edison Standard and Home Phonographs. Write or call, 1-207-989-4441. Lloyd Whitlock, 114 State St., Brewer, ME 04412.

(VII-5)

Edison Standard, Model D, with 25" and 30" horns; also H & D reproducers. With 47 wax and 45 plastic cylinders. No cover. To highest bidder. Felix J. Kernagis, 9153 46th Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL 33708. Or (813) 397-9178. (VII-5)

### PHONOGRAPHS FOR SALE

Edison Music Master Cygnet horn, bell only, needs some work. Two Edison 2-minute Standard phonos, incomplete. Columbia table-top Grafonola, red mahogany, fine cond. but elbow needs attention. Prefer to sell as a lot to best offer. Write (SASE), or call for complete details. Am also interested in contacting other collectors of phonos (cyl. & disc) and radios. John F. Shaw, 35-30 73rd Str., Jackson Heights, NY 11372. Or (212) 429-1556. (VII-5)

1947 Capehart Model 115P in good condition, \$2200. Contact Ted, 922 Main St., Boonton, NJ 07005. Or (201) 335-7381 or 334-1402.

Edison, Columbia, Victor, etc. Phonos For Sale. Also parts Bought and Sold. Write for list. SASE. Ralph C. Woodside, 51 W. Main St., Georgetown, MA 01834. Or (617) 373-5947 eve's. Also need elbow for rear-mount Type K Canadian Berliner, narrow end 1-3/8". Thanks. (VII-10)

### PHONOGRAPHS FOR SALE

Learn about antique phonographs and radios: join the Vintage Radio and Phonograph Society. Enjoy our monthly publication, the Reproducer, free ads to members, swap meets, monthly meetings, and much more. Free issue and further info, write: V.R.P.S., PO, Box 5345, Irving, TX 75062.

Thomas A. Edison and other Phonos for sale, SASE. Parts wanted for any phono. Write for list. Sedler's Antique Village, Ralph C. Woodside, 51 W. Main St., Georgetown, MA 01834. Or call (617) 373-5947 eves. (VII-10)

### Quality Castings Now Available!

Those hard-to-find, frontmount phonograph tone and support arms and turntables are finally available in quality reproductions. These parts are expertly polished and come complete with all necessary hardware. Columbia, Victor, Standard, Englewood, Berliner, Harvard, Busy Bee, Zon-o-phone, Harmony, Duplex, Globe. Send 35¢ long SASE for your free lists. Norm & Jayne Smith, 9096 Harvard Blvd., Poland, OH 44514. Or (216) 758-5001. (VII-9)

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VOLUME TWO, by Kenneth Lorenz. Contains cylinder discographies for Columbia Phonograph Company: Two-minute Brown Wax & XP Cylinders, 1901 - ca. Mar. 1909; Brown Wax Cylinders, Aug 1896 - ca. 1901; Twentieth Century BC Cylinders, Jy 1905 - ca. Jy. 1908; and a Special List of 1908 Presidential Election Campaign Cylinders. A valuable addition of cylinders for libraries, collectors and researchers. Columbia's numerical block system explained, lists cylinder numbers, titles, artists, dates of issue, a culmination of many years of research. 84 pages plus softcover, 5½ x 8½; U.S. \$14.95 in North America; U.S. \$17.95 airmailed.

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### PHONOGRAPHS FOR SALE

Edison Standard phono with morning glory horn, \$475. Edison Home with cygnet horn, \$575. Columbia disc AU with horn, \$525. John Johnston, (212) 833-1406.

Triumph Model A and Model E; Home, Standard, and 5" Concert phono; London 250 Laboratory Diamond Disc machine, Edisonia Consoles, exc. to mint. Send SASE for details to: Dr. J. Johnson, CAC Box 50, Coolidge, AZ 85228. (VII-5)

Edison Home phonograph, ca. 1903, oak model, very good condition, w/ 4 cylinders. Stephen Bandy, at (212) 787-1899.

Edison Opera phono, oak model, diamond reproducer, complete, superb, esp. the bedplate, \$3800. Early Edison Home, wing-C reproducer, fancy oak cabinet with glass top and claw feet, beautiful condition, \$2700. Will buy or trade for Edison electric Class M or E. Robert Bresnick, 18440 Hatteras St. #56, Tarzana, CA 91356. Or (213) 343-0391.

Grille patterns for many inside horn phonographs. Is your grille incorrect or missing? These are authentic, precise, and life-size, and may be used to make new ones; drawn by professional draftsman. Only \$7. ea. Specify your machine or write for list. R. B. Swallow, 10574 E. 5th, Tulsa, OK 74128. (918) 437-9652. (VIII-4)

### PHONOGRAPHS WANTED

Combination 45 record player and radio (Guild?) in the shape of an outside horn phonograph. In stores approx. 8 years ago (?). Richard Jenks, 517 Bentbrook, New Albany, IN 47150.

### PHONOGRAPHS WANTED

Outside horn phonographs, any make or model. Toy phonos, needle tins and related paraphernalia. Also Vogue Picture Records wanted. Tibor Bertalan, 4309 Notre Dame Blvd., Laval, Quebec, Canada H7W 1T3. (VII-5)

Talk-o-phone phonos wanted. Also need 7" turntable and 3-spring motor. Will buy or will trade Talkophone horn. Steve Hobbs, 1116 W. Morgan, Kokomo, IN 46901.

(VII-8)

Capehart, Victor, RCA and Scott radio-phonograph combinations wanted. Also Wurlitzer jukeboxes 780, 950 and early wooden models. Call 717-875-4787 after 11 pm. Joe Weber, 604 Centre St., Ashland, PA 17921. (VII-9)

Wanted: Small Talk-o-phone disc machine, early model with dovetail cabinet corners, slip-in support-arm, etc. Any reasonable price paid, or excellent trade. Steven Hobbs, 1116 W. Morgan, Kokomo, IN 46901. (VII-9)

Urgently wanted: Victor Electrolas 916 or 918 and 1069. Call 215-345-6358. Robert Molesworth, 53 Keeley Ave., New Britain, PA 18901.

lam researching early recording industry period. Seeking detailed anecdotal material involving early technical, financial & creative recording experiences (1895-1920). Mark F. Ulano, 622 North Ave. 54, Los Angeles, CA 90042.

Wanted: RCA Victrola Credenza 8-30. Edison Opera. Western Electric equipment. Tel. (213) 576-2642. David Yo, P.O. Box 832, Monterey Park, CA 91754.

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### **HELP: I NEED PARTS!**

Need motor parts or complete motor for small Columbia front-mount. Dan E. Roberts, 1209 27th St., Vienna, WV 26105. Or 304-295-9563. (VII-5)

Ball-shaped governor weight and spring for Edison elec tric cylinder phono (vertical type, made of steel). APM Archives, 502 E. 17th St., Brooklyn, NY 11226.

Need crank-handle or copy for 7' high Multiphone. Also restorable Baker's Pacers Racers. Tony Goodstone, P.O. Box 35683, Los Angeles, CA 90035.

Want Babson Bros. intermediate horn and crane to fit on Edison Triumph. Earl Burtman, 423B Dedham St., Newton Centr, MA 02159.

Need Graphophone AZ and Berliner reproducers. Send condition and price. David Adamitis, 1311 Bank St., Dickson City, PA 18519. Also, complete restoration, repairs, and sales of all phonographs offered.

Want Columbia reproducer measuring just under 2" in diameter. Ralph Schack, 30205 Avd de Calma, Rancho P.V., CA 90274 or (213) 377-7739 eve's. (VII-5)

Complete Puck motor or Puck parts machine, lyre-base. Also want persons interested in buying reproduction Columbia /Standard long-throat reproducers if the cost were \$50 to \$60. Ken Danckaert, 231 Kennedy Ct., Severns Park, MD 21146. Or (301) 544-0260.

Wanted: Hexaphone Reproducer. Will buy or trade. Martin Roenigk, 26 Barton Barton Hill, E. Hampton, CT 06424. Or (203) 267-8682.

Original 5" mandrel for Pathe cylinder phono, slip-on type.

APM

### HELP: I NEED PARTS!

Original Edison key for Amberola I. Also, Edison twopiece Fireside horn with good original paint and decal. Blaine A. Shank, 323 Stratford Ave., Wadsworth, OH 44281.

Want reproducer for Brooks Automatic spring-powered phono. Tone-arm bracket for Victor 8-30. For sale or trade: Decca Portable, like new, \$85. plus ship. Allan Hibsch, 4 La Foret Ct., Oroville, CA 95965. Or (916) 589-0138.

Elbow for "rigid" tonearm Victor E. Any info appreciated. Also interested in Victor De Luxe model machines. Stuart Caplan, 6945 Blanche Rd., Baltimore, MD 21215.

(VII-6)

Need for Edison Opera: mahogany horn and horn elbow. Ron Kramer, 131 North Shore Dr., Syracuse, IN 46567.

### RECORDS FOR SALE

Blue Amberol cylinders for sale. Send 2 stamps for priced lists sorted by category. Ron Kramer, 131 North Shore Dr., Syracuse, IN 46567.

Old classics on 78 rpm for sale. List available upon request. Write A. Betancourt, Pennant Club 23-A, Jackson, NJ 08527.

Vast stock of 78's, Edisons, LP's. Make specific requests. SASE. Ralph W. Sim, 64 Riverview Rd., Clifton Park, NY 12065. (VII-8)

Two and Four-Minute cylinder records for sale. Send 50¢ for list. Robert F. Nowak, 3238 N. Central Park, Chicago, IL 60618. (VII-6)

Mail Auction 78 discs, incl. pop, classical, & Edisons. Write for free list to Neil Maken, P. O. Box 6773, Huntington Beach, CA 92615.

(VII-5)

### RECORDS FOR SALE

More cylinder records, both clean 2-minute wax and Blue Amberols, some in orig. wooden chests. No lists, but you may order by mail or pick up in person.

APM Archives

Indestructible, U.S. Everlasting, and Lakeside cylinders, 2- and 4-minute. Send 2 stamps for priced lists. Ron Kramer, 131 North Shore Dr., Syracuse, IN 46567.

For sale: about 149 Edison Diamond Disc records: mixed classical, religious, military band, accordion, Hawaiian, popular, piano, country, pipe organ, comedy, etc., all in fine cond. Make offer for one or all. A list is available for a SASE with 37¢ post (US & Can.) or 4 IRC coupons elsewhere. Also one new Edison reproducer. Wm. C. Love, 5808 Northumberland St., Pittsburgh, PA 15217.

pink Lamberts; Let Us Not Forget; #3709 T. Roosevelt, 28 Cal Stewart, 2 brown wax in perfect cond. and 5 Sousa band. Send SASE for list. Also Edison 2-sided cylinder carrying case, holds 48 records. Don Lambdin, KNPR, 5151 Boulder Hwy, Las Vegas, NV 89122. Or (702) 458-1587.

Cylinder record auction (mail) featuring brown wax, coming in April. Large SASE for list. Also pink & black Lamberts available for trades on Blue Amberols I need. Paul Newth, 26 Gail Dr., Ellington, CT 06029. (VII-5)

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Orientales955/57, 1236 Buenos
Aires, Argentina. (VII-9)

### RECORDS FOR SALE

We sell classical, vocal, opera, piano, violin, 78's and Lp's, books on singers and record catalogs before 1930. For free list, write Arthur Knight, 128 Fifth St., Providence, RI 02906. (VIII-4)

### **RECORDS WANTED**

Bel Canto Trio records from 1940's-50's. Buy or trade. Joe Klee, 555-8 Main St., #S804, Roosevelt Island, NY 10044.

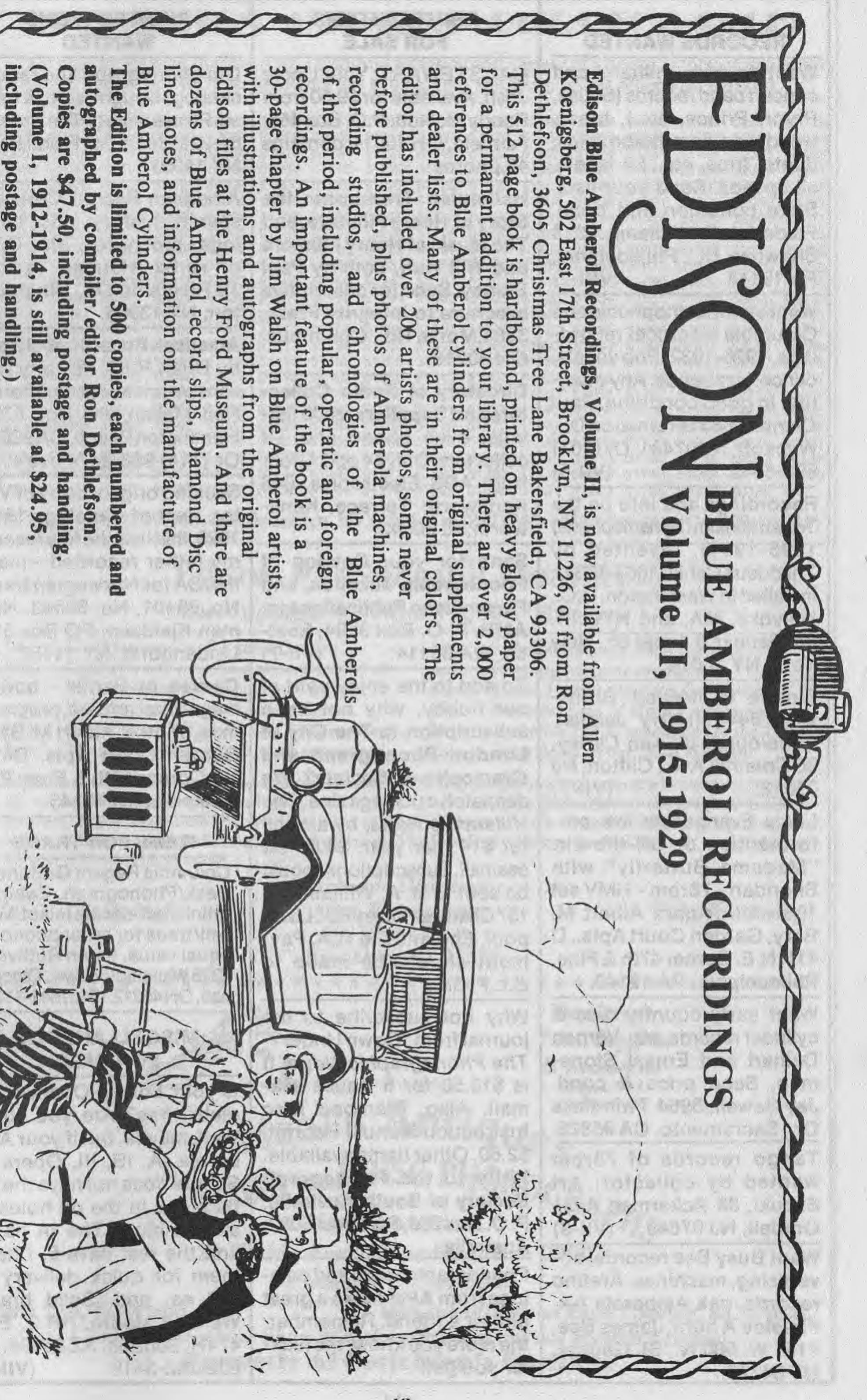
Want for research: cylinders by Polk Miller & The Old South Qt., Also QRS discs R7006, R7025, and R7029. Bill Canaday, 463 West St., New York, NY 10014.

Blank cylinders, cylinders with jazz, dance music, ragtime, cakewalk, any Swedish title is of great interest. Also want banjo, violin and accordion solos. Have many cylinders to trade. Also want pantographic copying machine. State condition and price. Anders Schilling, Bjornsonsgatan 95, 161 56 Bromma, Sweden. (VII-5)

Want cylinders, 78's or Edison DD's containing Xylophone, bells, or marimbabands, especially those by George Hamilton Green. David Harvey, 82 Gainsborough St., #1A, Boston, MA 02115 or (617) 262-9828, collect. (VIII-1)

Want 78 rpm recordings by Al Jolson, Victor, Columbia and Brunswick labels. State cond. and price. Roger Ledford, Rt. 9, Box 711, Hickory, NC 28601. (VII-5)

Sy's Been Drinkin' Cider -The Bum Song - The Prune Song (Banner-Ray Ball); Freshie - When I Was a Lad (John Charles Thomas, Victor Red). Will buy or trade. Leonard Valenta, 134 Campus Rd., Staten Island, NY 10301. Or (212) 273-6308.



### **RECORDS WANTED**

Want to buy military and concert band records (Sousa, Pryor, Prince, etc.), brass, woodwind, percussion solos, duets, trios, etc. All labels, all speeds. Send your lists. State condition and price. Frederick P. Williams, 8313 Shawnee St., Philadelphia, PA 19118. (VIII-2)

Want Victor Orthophonic and Columbia electrical recordings, 1926-1932. Pop vocals, dance, jazz bands. Any quantity, in good condition. Paul Ciancia, 683 Birchwood Dr., Wyckoff, NJ 07481. Or (201) 891-6842. (VII-5)

Recordings and info on the Telharmonium (Dynamophone) 1895-1911), invented by Thaddeus Cahill (1867-1934), installed in Washington, D.C., Holyoke, MA, and NYC. R. Weidenaar, 5 Jones St., New York, NY 10014.

Sinatra 78 needed: Brunswick 8443 (Harry James). Price/cond. to: Ken Carley, 96 Cresthill Ave., Clifton, NJ 07012. (VII-7)

Lucia Evangelista live performances or off-the-air. "Madama Butterfly" with Sheridan - 78rpm - HMV set 103 - all or part. Albert M. Bary, Garden Court Apts., D 411, N.E. Corner 47th & Pine, Philadelphia, PA 19143.

Want early country disc & cylinder records, esp. Vernon Dalhart and Ernest Stoneman. Send price & cond. Jay Sewell, 8964 Twin Falls Dr., Sacramento. CA 95826.

Tango records of 78rpm wanted by collector. Art Suzuki, 38 Ackerman Ave., Oradell, NJ 07649. (VII-9)

Want Busy Bee records, advertising, machines. Aretino records, oak Amberola I-A. Fireside A horn. James Bee, 1151 W. 560 N., St. George, UT 84770.

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Phonograph books and catalogs from APM make a great gift for a friend. Remember, the more you know, the luckier you get!

### PRINTED ITEMS WANTED

Old phonograph and record catalogs bought, sold, & traded. Please write to Tim Brooks, 84-22M 264th St., Floral Park, NY 11001

American Record Corp. research, history, ads, catalogs, brochures, etc. Orig. or xerox. Herman Taikoff, 10 Riverside Dr., Binghamton, NY 13905.

American Record Label Book by Brian Rust. Pay any reasonable price or trade. Thanks. Neil Maken, PO Box 6773, Huntington Beach, CA 92615. Or (714) 963-2474 eve's.

Seeking orig. or copy of Victor Record Catalog, 1910-1925, that lists the few records my father recorded - made in USA for Norwegian trade. No. 69401, No. 69543. Norman Kjeldsen, PO Box 517, Lindenhurst, NY 11757.

Caruso or Farrar - books, magazines, articles, programmes, photos. Albert M. Bary, Garden Court Apts. D411, NE Corner 47th & Pine, Philadelphia, PA 19143.

### ITEMS FOR TRADE

Columbia Regent Grafonola Desk/Phonograph. Cabinet refinished, decals intact. Will sell/trade for other phono of equal value. Kevin Ruthven, 2325 Washington Ave., Cincinnati, OH45212. (513) 841-1122.

### MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Is your Edison Opera complete? Yes? Are you sure? Well, maybe, but if your Amberola IA, IB, III, Opera or School does not have the little plugs in the oil holes, it should have. The IA has 3 and the rest have 5. I have them for quick delivery at 75¢ ea. ppd. Solid brass. Wendell Moore, RR 2, Box 474H, Sedona, AZ 86336. Or 602-282-3419. (VII-7)

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Bill Eigenfeld, 388 Avenue X, Brooklyn, NY 11223. Tel (212) 645-9415 after 7pm. (\*= \$20; °=\$12)

## Edison Phonograph Monthly

More Highlights of Volume VII, 1909 (312 pages)

Good lessons for all Edison Dealers July Jan. J. P. Sousa signs Edison contract Cylinders will now have printed top labels Feb. Aug. First cygnet horns announced New improvement in governor collars 2- and 4-minute Maroon Gem unveiled Mar. Sept. 300 cylinder records to be withdrawn April Oct. President Diaz of Mexico makes a record Note Triumph Model A and B differences! Nov. Amberola I (2-4) announced to the Trade May The new Fireside phonograph announced Some notes on our Stella Mayhew June Dec.

All books are serially numbered as this is a limited printing. Additional volumes are in production and all are bound in deluxe red and gold hard covers. These are true facsimiles of the original Edison Dealers' Trade Magazine. Each volume has at least 180 pages, Vol's VI and VII have 312 pages, all with much fascinating information and pictures. The first five volumes are \$12.95 each, and Volume VI and VII are \$13.95 each.

Vol. VIII coming!

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(VIII-2)

### MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Have turned up about 30 metal discs for Mira Music Box, 18%" diameter, good titles, \$10. ea. if you take them all. Allen Koenigsberg, 502 E. 17 St., Brooklyn, NY

Limited Supply of old Victor Dogs - Nipper - \$25. ea. Michael Edwards, 2122 Colony Rd., Jamison, PA 18929.

Edisonic Diamond Disc reproducer, new unused, in orig. box. Chrome-plated. Doubles volume of Edison DD players. Rare. \$50. Don Lambdin, c/o KNPR, 5151 Boulder Hwy, Las Vegas, NV 89122. Or (702) 458-1587.

Radiola 44. Working, good cond. Radiola 18, with own table, not working. ATK 55, working, good cond. Table model, looks home-made, circa 1926, with beautiful parts. Battery operated. 55 antique tubes. All to the highest bidder. Felix J. Kernagis, 9153 46th Ave. N., St. Petersburg, FL 33708. Or (813) 397-9178.

Nipper Decal for Victor wood horns. Nice. \$3.25 postpaid. Ken Blazier, 2937 Elda St., Duarte, CA 91010. (VII-10)

# MISCELLANEOUS

Want labels for British manufactured cylinder boxes, (entire boxes with label OK). J. P. Coleman, PO Box 9685, Hollywood, CA 91609.

I collect empty cylinder record containers. Am interested in anything from Blue Amberols to Lamberts and everything in between. Please send make, cond., price in first letter. Doug Negus, RR 2, Box 139, Sutherland, IA51058. (VII-5)

Need info on old typewriters? Send SASE to Don Sutherland 28 Smith Terrace, Staten Island, N.Y. 10304. Will buy or trade.

## MISCELLANEOUS

Want to buy old cameras and Daguerreotypes, stereo cards, etc. Also interested in buying and selling military images. Send \$2 for my latest 1983 illustrated sales list. Mark Koenigsberg, 292 Main St., Unit J, Madison, NJ 07940. (201) 966-1009.

I will buy or trade for Edison Home Kinetoscope films and projectors, original literature, parts and related materials. Reid Welch, 8034 West 21 Court, Hialeah, FL 33016. Or (305) 821-2702. (VII-10)

Want 10-inch and 12-inch record storage albums in clean condition. D. H. Wallis, 547 Marengo Ave., Forest Park, IL 60130. (VII-6)

Want record storage albums, especially 12-inch, in good cond. Also wanted: bamboo and cactus needles. David H. Wallis, 547 Marengo Ave., Forest Park, IL 60130.

(VII-5)

### SERVICES

Exact reproduction reproducers, limited number available, Zonophone Concert front-mount, Talk-o-phone front-mount, rear-mount, Columbia front-mount, early rear-mount. Also parts to complete yours. Complete reproducer, \$140. ppd. Guaranteed exact duplicate. Steven Hobbs, 1116 W. Morgan, Kokomo, IN 46901. (VII-9)

## PHONOGRAPH

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OLD SOUND! A Museum of Antique Phonographs and recording Technology on Cape Cod. Beautiful displays, plus shop for machines, sheet music, records, services, etc. Also available for professional lecturing service and entertainment. Old Sound, Rt. 134 near 6A, East Dennis, MA 02641. Or (617) 385-8795.

(VII-9)

### SERVICES

Experienced machinist with home shop will repair any reproducer; machines professionally cleaned and repaired. Will buy any reproducer parts. Randle Pomeroy, 54 - 12th St., Providence, R.I. 02906. Or 401-272-5560 after 6 pm. (VII-8)

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